



Committed to the future of rural communities.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS PROGRAM

Potential Grants Available? USDA Rural Development grant funds are anticipated for energy efficiency and related projects for Nebraska businesses and farmers. Over \$22 million were available under the USDA 9006 Energy program in the previous three Fiscal Years and new funding is anticipated.

Who & What Projects are Eligible? Small businesses, farmers and ranchers can utilize Energy Efficiency Improvement grants for projects such as heating/AC improvements, insulation, windows, doors, refrigeration equipment, lighting, pumping systems, motor systems, etc. Irrigators may consider the program for more energy efficient irrigation systems.

What Grant Amount Could I Receive? Subject to final rules, grants for up to 25 percent of project costs may be available with a minimum of \$2,500 and maximum of \$250,000.

What Do I Need to Do Now? Application period for this program is pending. **To prepare for the application period, interested businesses should begin the following now:**

1. Visit with your local Rural Development Business Specialist about your proposed project.
2. Work with your local utility and vendor to determine the type of energy efficiency improvements to be considered.
 - a. Have your local or regional utility complete an energy assessment or audit for your business.
 - b. Obtain approximate costs from a vendor for your proposed project.

The final application packet will be simplified by completing these two items. Stay in touch with your Rural Development Business Specialist and obtain an application packet as soon as funds are available. For renewable energy projects, work directly with your Specialist for details appropriate for renewable energy technology.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENT GRANT FUNDS ARE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR NEBRASKA BUSINESSES. CONTACT YOUR USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS SPECIALIST TODAY!

Visit: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farmbill/index.html>

Contact: State Energy Coordinators (Beatrice):	Cliff Kumm or Deb Yocum	402-223-3125
Rural Development Business Specialists:	Beatrice Jan Knobel	402-223-3125
	Columbus Dan Laska	402-564-0506
	Ainsworth Mary Gambill	402-387-2242
	Scottsbluff Tim Brooks	308-632-2195
	North Platte Beth Fries	308-534-2360
	Kearney Karissa Hagedorn	308-237-3118

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